



CUSTOMER NO. 30223

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Hiroyuki Higuchi

Attorney Docket: 52643-00350USPT

Serial No.: Not Assigned

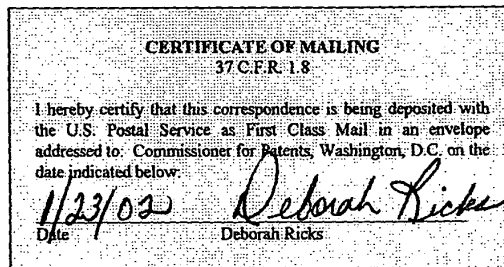
Group Art: Not Assigned

Filed: January 4, 2002

Examiner: Not Assigned

Title: STEAM PRESSURE REDUCING
AND CONDITIONING VALVE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT



Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Attn: Box Fee Amendment

Dear Commissioner:

Please enter the following amendments before examination of the above-referenced patent application:

In the Claims

Please add new claims 4-17 as follows:

- 4. (New) A conditioning valve for desuperheating and depressurizing superheated steam, the valve comprising:
- a pressure reducing section for reducing the pressure of the steam; and
 - a moisture jet section downstream of the pressure reducing section, wherein the moisture jet section comprises:
 - one or more flat nozzles for injecting one or more respective planar patterns of water into a flow of the steam exiting the pressure reducing section.

COPY